586 and seventeen for women. One of the consequences of war was an increase in the divorce rates. In the 1930's only about 1400 marriages, or 0.4 per thousand, ended in divorce; in 1945 the figure was 5605, or 1.5 per thousand. Recently the rate has again declined; in 1951 3450 divorces were granted.

162 The families in Finland are a little larger than in Scandinavia, 4 to 5 children being com-

[369] mon. As in other places, children are more numerous in the rural areas, especially among the poorest population, than in the cities.

[168] Large families are encouraged by tax exemptions and benefits paid for each child under sixteen, regardless of the financial position of the parents.

● 737 The care of old people mostly remains in the family. For those who cannot be properly

737 cared for in their homes there are communal old peoples' homes, which, for all their modern accomodation, are generally shunned by old people as restraining their liberty and personal life. Thus, according to an unwritten code, the care of the parents usually remains with the unmarried daughter--a fact that is not adequately observed by the taxing officials.

428 Inheritance rights are equal for all the children and, in the case of an unmarried or childless person, for other groups of relatives. Adopted children are regarded as direct heirs. Husbands and wives do not inherit from each other, unless they make a marriage settlement or a will for the benefit of the other spouse. Landed property is divided equally among all the children, although usually only one of them takes care of the estate. If he is able to do so,